A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE LATE REV. JOB SHENTON

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A biographical sketch of the late Rev. Job Shenton by His Widow

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A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

OF THE LATE

REV. JOB SHENTON,

BY HIS WIDOW,

WITH SOME OF HIS

SERMONS AND LECTURES.

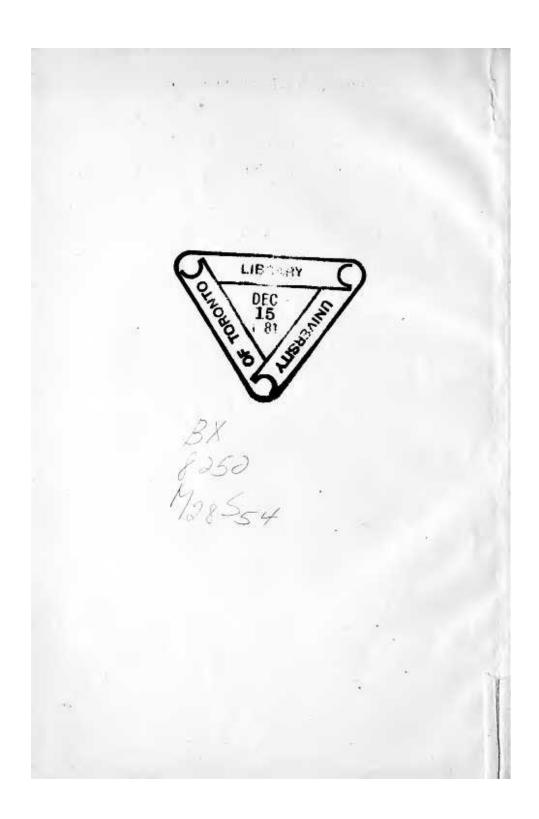
INTRODUCTORY NOTICES

BY

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"God buries his workmen, but carries on his work."

ST. JOHN, N. B. J. & A. McMillan, 98 Prince William Street. 1992.

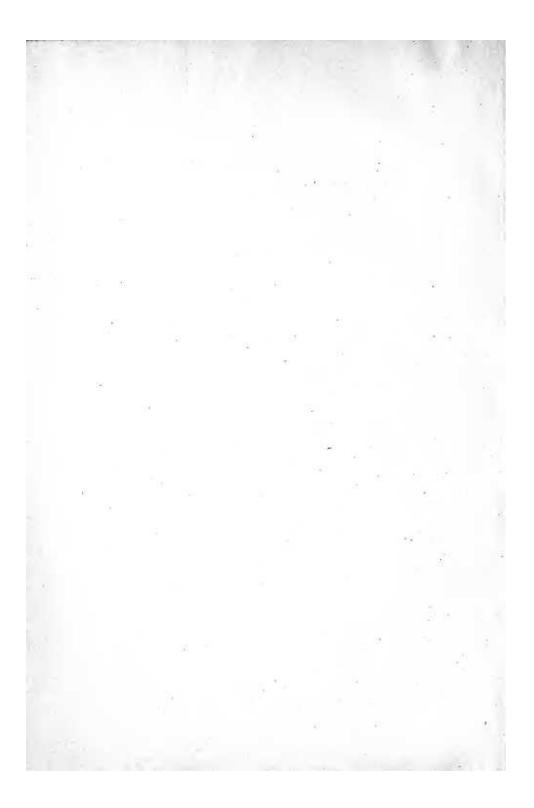


DEDICATION.

To all those who have loved him for his own sake, as well as for his faithful ministry of over forty years, I DEDICATE THIS BOOK in loving remembrance, and to such I believe it will be acceptable, although missing the touch of his hand in revision, and the inspiration of the voice that was so suddenly "hushed into silence." In this brief sketch I make no attempt to be otherwise than desultory, as I can only wander through the garden of memory and pluck here and there a leaf, a bud or blossom, as they present themselves to my hand; and these I venture to offer my readers, although loosely tied together and crude in their arrangement, and sometimes, I fear, losing much of their fragrance and beauty in the handling. My object is not to eulogize the dead, but to allow his sermons, as silent monitors, to carry appeals once uttered, thus allowing his departed servant to preach the Gospel.

" For he, being dead, yet speaketh."

M. J. SHENTON.



INTRODUCTION.

An introduction need not mean an apology. Any book that helps to mental improvement and moral strength bears its own justification. John Milton said: "A good book is the precious life-blood of a master spirit, embalmed and treasured up, on purpose to a life beyond life." If it be true that "no man liveth to himself," then the most should be made of a life that has been signally honored and blessed. This volume is designed to promote God's glory and perpetuate the memory of a noble man, "who served his generation by the will of God."

Some one asked Coleridge if he could prove the truth of Christianity, and he said : "Ves, try it," "Taste and see that the Lord is good." Mr. Shenton did this. He sought and found Christ as a personal Saviour. A heart-renewed experience was his—an intellect clear and strong—a style that was attractive—a mind well stored by reading—commanding, eloquent and popular in the pulpit—faithful in the discharge of pastoral duties. No wonder that the best churches of his denomination in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland gladly welcomed him to the occupancy of their pulpits. In these he made full proof of his ministry, and there was demonstrated "that the gospel of Christ is no cunningly devised fable, but the power of God unto salvation."

Goethe exhorts, "Make good thy standing ground and move the world;" and Thomas Carlyle emphasizes wise counsel when he intreats some of his hearers not to be "a passive bucket to be pumped into," Mr. Shenton was broad minded and many sided. He lived to get good and do good. He was a connexional man. Appointments of trust, labor and honor he held by the suffrages

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INTRODUCTION.

of his brethren. In the wider circle that touches sister churches he was genial and catholic—" the friend of all, the enemy of none." Invariably he illustrated that his object was not a living but a life—a life full of God and good deeds, to help humanity towards God.

The characteristic sermons and addresses of this volume will be welcomed by many personal friends. Whilst they will miss the living voice, they will recall the impressive utterances, the finely rounded periods and eloquent sayings of the preacher. Let us be grateful that loving hands have selected sermons that God blessed in their "pulpit delivery," on themes grand and fundamental—full of the best things of the kingdom.

Personal acquaintance with Mr. Shenton for over forty years caused me to esteem him very highly. He was "a manly man," sympathetic and charitable. His home life revealed the generous friend, the affectionate husband, and considerate father. His passage hence was more like a translation than death. He has gone, to be "forever with the Lord."

W. H. HEARTZ.

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